

## USO honors American, German service members of all branches

By Sgt. Mary E. Ferguson  
3rd Corps Support Command  
Public Affairs Office

While perceived by many as a routine gesture of courtesy, those who wear a uniform cherish the United Services Organization Service Salute as a reflection of the honor, respect and pride associated with their daily sacrifices.

It represents a historical mark of past warriors, a confident hope in present and future service members and a constant tribute to tradition.

The USO paralleled the rich sym-

bolism embedded in the military courtesy by providing an arena for saluting the accomplishments of 10 junior enlisted service members, including representatives of the five branches of the U.S. and German armed forces, during the 15th annual USO-Europe Service Salute.

The Sept. 30 event filled the Wiesbaden Kurhaus with distinguished guests, military personnel and dignitaries from both countries, reinforcing the strong partnership that exists between the U.S. military and its host



The European Command Joint Color Guard posts the colors during the 15th annual USO Service Salute at the Wiesbaden Kurhaus Sept. 30.



Photos by Spc. David Chapman

Sgt. Frank K. Koulalis, of the 181st Transportation Battalion, 515th Transportation Company (far right), stands with other honorees at the 15th annual United Services Organization Service Salute for a final round of applause from the audience at the conclusion of the Sept. 30 ceremony at the Wiesbaden Kurhaus.

nation.

Maj. Gen. Fred D. Robinson Jr., 1st Armored Division commanding general, and Brig. Gen. Michael Lally, commanding general of the 3rd Corps Support Command, were among the many distinguished guests.

The concept of simultaneously honoring outstanding individual service and host country military counterparts was first referred to as a USO Gold Plate Dinner and originated in Japan in the 1960s.

The USO Council of Germany established the German version of the event in 1992. In this, its 15th year of saluting service, the USO honored Stabsunteroffizier Mike Jahr, Deutsches Heer; Sgt. Frank K. Koulalis, U.S. Army; Sgt. Diego P. Chavez, U.S. Marine Corps; Obermaat Christian Harms, Deutsche Marine; Aviation Structural Mechanic 3rd Class Jui I. Yang, U.S. Navy; Oberstabsgefreiter Martin Hadynski, Deutsche Luftwaffe; Staff Sgt. Four N. Nichols, U.S. Air Force; Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Anthony Acosta, U.S. Coast Guard; Stabsunteroffizier Sybille Weininger, Deutscher Zentraler Sanitatsdienst; Stabsgefreiter Marcus Winkler, Deutsche Streitkräftebasis.

"This year's 10 honorees were selected by their respective military branches ... they are the best of the best at what they do," said Lon Blair of American Forces Network Hessen and

the event's master of ceremonies.

Gen. William E. Ward, deputy commander of the United States European Command, and Generalleutnant Karl-Heinz Lather, German military chief of staff, congratulated the honorees.

"I am happy to be here to salute the 10 selected who represent so many more of our armed forces who truly do the work and make this world a more secure place," Ward said.

Following a brief photo presentation of each honoree, they were individually escorted by their senior enlisted sponsor through a traditional

sabre cordon to the stage where USO diamond contributors offered congratulatory hand shakes, and Ward and Lather presented the service members with awards, while offering personal words of praise.

"It was an incredible honor to be chosen to represent the Army and an amazing feeling to be recognized this way," said Koulalis of the 515th Transportation Company, 181st Transportation Battalion, in Mannheim.

The United States Air Force Europe 435th Security Forces ceremonial team provided the sabre cordon and the United States European Command Joint Color Guard posted the colors. The United States Air Force Tops in Blue entertained guests throughout the evening.

***"This year's 10 honorees were selected by their respective military branches ... they are the best of the best at what they do." – Lon Blair, American Forces Network Hessen***



# Laptops aid wounded Soldiers

**By Spc. Alfredo Jimenez Jr.**  
1st Armored Division Public Affairs Office

When injured troops are transported from the battlefield to a hospital, their fellow service members and families are often eager to know their condition.

Now, thanks to the 1st Armored Division's foresight of this growing concern, communication has gotten a little easier for Soldiers rehabilitating at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

"[Maj.] Gen. [Fred D.] Robinson noted that when he visited the troops, one of their biggest concerns was the inability to communicate with their families because they didn't have access to computers," said Lt. Col. Jerome Buller, 1st Armored Division surgeon.

While computers are located throughout Walter Reed, several Soldiers cannot walk or get to a computer because of the severity of their injuries. So for the past several months 1st AD staffers have been working to acquire laptops and put them together.

It has been especially sweet for one particular staffer, Stephen "Red" Bement, who has volunteered countless hours to help put the systems together. He and Bill Wallace, the garrison Automation Management Office supervisor, can work on up to five computers a week and are

looking to improve on that.

"I love this project," Wallace said. "They could take my paycheck away and I'd still work on these systems because there is nothing better than supporting heroes wounded on the frontlines."

"These are all battle-injury patients and many have substantial injuries that don't allow them to walk around and use a computer," Buller said. "We are working hard to keep them connected to their units and family. Anything we can do to enhance their recovery is a good thing."

That sentiment was evident last week when Buller handed out the initial batch of laptops to recuperating troops at

Walter Reed. Five Soldiers and family members embraced the concept and seemed to sigh with relief at one less stressful thing to worry about.

"This is a great thing and a wonderful tool to have," said 1st Lt. Christian Fierro, 427th Field Artillery Battalion ammunition ex-

ecutive officer. "When I received the laptop, I realized that the program was in great hands because Lt. Col. Buller was very helpful in explaining what it meant."

And even though the laptops will only be used by the Soldiers while they



**Lt. Col. Jerome L. Buller, 1st Armored Division surgeon, left, speaks to 1st Lt. Christian Fierro, 427th Field Artillery Battalion ammunition officer, about a laptop provided during his recuperation. The laptop, which is Internet ready and contains games, was provided by 1st AD for recovering Soldiers who need to communicate with family and friends.**

are recuperating, these troops understand that others will enjoy the same benefit of communicating while enduring their ordeals.

"I've been confined to the bed for three weeks and I still have 12 weeks to go," said Staff Sgt. Curt T. Charles, Battery A, 1st Batt., 37th Armor Division section tank commander. "I shattered my pelvis when I was shot in the back in Iraq and I can't move to a computer station, but thanks to 1st AD helping us in time of need, I will be able to communicate with my family and

friends."

Because the initial response was positive, 1st AD will try to foster the program and eventually spread it to other medical establishments such as Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, said Buller.

"This unit has a deep-rooted philosophy in taking care of Soldiers by meeting any need they might have," Buller said. "To the public, I would hope they see what we believe: that we care for the Soldiers, and their needs are important to us."

# Heritage honored in Wiesbaden

**By Spc. Tanya C. Polk**  
1st Armored Division  
Public Affairs Office

Wiesbaden-based Soldiers, Airmen and civilians gathered at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Dining Facility for more than just a bite to eat.

While stomachs were filled with a Spanish-style meal, eager souls gained a better understanding of the Hispanic contribution to America as the 1st Armored Division hosted a Hispanic Heritage luncheon Oct. 11.

"It's important to enhance

the knowledge of everybody," said Sgt. 1st Class Joann Hamilton-Morgan, 1st AD equal opportunity advisor. "It is important for the Army as a whole to understand the background of every Soldier because [it's] one team, one fight."

A member of the Army team and guest speaker, Sgt. Maj. Rosemarie T. Caraballo, the deputy chief of staff G4 sergeant major for U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army, spoke to the crowd of her successes as an American of Spanish heritage.

"Doors are opening to us politically as well as professionally," said Caraballo, who originally comes from Mexico. "Diversity is more than just a number. It is building a culture of respect and equality. It is creating opportunities for all people, and it is appreciating differences."

In addition to listening to Caraballo's speech, troops and civilians enjoyed a traditional Salsa dance as well as a slide show detailing the successes of several Hispanic-Americans.

"It should be celebrated all



**Sgt. Maj. Rosemarie T. Caraballo, deputy Chief of Staff G4 sergeant major for U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army, speaks to a crowd of Soldiers, Airmen and civilians during a Hispanic Heritage luncheon at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Dining Facility, Oct. 11.**

year long," said Pfc. Maggie Mallety, a Soldier with Landstuhl Dental Clinic.

Hispanic Heritage Month is observed Sept. 15 to Oct. 15. Caraballo encouraged others

to always remember the Hispanic-American culture. "I pledge to you that I will not forget where I come from," said Caraballo to the crowd, "and neither should you."





Photos by Anemone Rueger

***Warrior pride keeps spirit alive***

Cheerleaders, students and school staff parade through the mudflats with a mock lion figure made out of cardboard. Photo left: Wiesbaden’s General H.H. Arnold High School Warrior cheerleaders perform during a community-wide pep rally Oct. 13 in Hainerberg Housing. The pep rally was held the day before the school’s Homecoming football game against the Heidelberg Lions Oct. 14 and ended with the burning of the “lion” in a bonfire. The Warriors lost to Heidelberg 27-22.

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## Bidding farewell

1st Military Intelligence Battalion and Division Support Command bade farewell to four Soldiers during a community retirement ceremony at the Wiesbaden Community Activity Center Oct. 4.

**Sgt. 1st Class Matthias S. Bowlsby, 1st MI Batt.**

**"You don't know if you can do it if you don't try. If you're going to try something, give it your best shot."**



**1st Sgt. Julie Scott, 1st MI Batt.**

**"There is no limit to what can be accomplished if you don't care who gets the credit."**

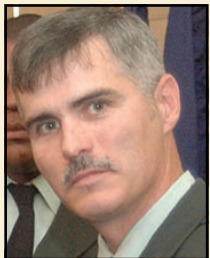


**Master Sgt. Mariano J. Ibarra, Division Support Command Coach for the All-Army and Armed Forces soccer teams from 1992-1994.**



**Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael W. Stover, 1st MI Batt.**

**"I absolutely love being a warrant officer, but the proudest and fondest memories come from my time as an enlisted Soldier."**



**House of Makeup**

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## News notes

### Gate changes

The pedestrian gate at the back of Mainz-Kastel Storage Station will be open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Due to a recent reduction in guards, the south gate at Wiesbaden Army Airfield will now close at 9:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information call mil 337-6464 or civ (0611) 705-6464.

### Halloween parties

The Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers program hosts a Halloween Party Oct. 27. The frights begin at 8 p.m. at the Victory Point Bar in the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Community Activity Center with karaoke, prizes and a costume contest. The Kastel Klub at Mainz-Kastel Storage Station hosts its annual Halloween party Oct. 31 from 6-11 p.m. Free cake, food and raffles will be available.

### Fix-it Jamboree

Romer Art Center hosts a Fix-it Jamboree Oct. 28-29. Attend how-to workshops or bring items for repair. Romer's framing, upholstery and woodshop experts will be on hand to provide demonstrations on desk-top items. Large items require an appointment. The \$10 fee covers workshops and assis-

tance, but additional materials may need to be purchased to complete a project. For information call mil 337-5722 or civ (0611) 705-5722.

### No school

Due to parent/teacher conferences, there will be no school for students Nov. 16-17 at Hainerberg, Dexheim and Aukamm Elementary Schools and Wiesbaden Middle School. High School students will not have school Nov. 17 due to teacher in-service and conferences.

### Holiday auditions

Romer Art Center begins rehearsals for its annual reading of "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" and "A Christmas Carol" Nov. 8. Adults are needed to read a variety of characters. For information call mil 337-5722 or civ (0611) 705-5722.

### Fitness for youth

Get your kids moving with the Kid and Teen Fit programs at the Wiesbaden Fitness Center. Teen Fit begins Nov. 7 for teens age 13-18. Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:45-4:45 p.m. Kid Fit begins Nov. 14 for children age 2-3 and helps children develop stretching, tumbling and

motor skills. Classes are held every Tuesday from 10:30-11:15 a.m. For more information call mil 337-7887 or civ (0611) 705-7887.

### Parking regulations at American Arms Hotel

Beginning Nov. 1 the city of Wiesbaden will implement parking restrictions on Frankfurter Strasse and the surrounding roads near the American Arms Hotel.

Vehicle owners must purchase a parking ticket when leaving their vehicle on Frankfurter Strasse Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Parking is free after 4 p.m. on weekdays and on Saturday, Sunday and German holidays.

Tariff rates are 50 euro cents per 30 minutes. Maximum parking time within the pay period is five hours. The neighboring streets are for residential parking and are limited to two hours without a parking fee 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday through Friday. Vehicle owners must display a parking disk behind their windshield. After 8 p.m. and on Saturday, Sunday and German holidays, parking is permitted without restrictions.

Residents residing in these areas may purchase a parking permit for €22 at the German Vehicle Registration Office.

The garrison is currently investigating alternate solutions to minimize the effect of the changes. For more information call mil 337-1560 or 337-1600.

**Dr. Broichmann**

**Confessional  
Luthern  
Church**

**Lucia's**

**Kaiser Palast**



# CFC campaign helps charities

**By Kelly Deichert**  
*Special to the Herald Union*

The Combined Federal Campaign Overseas asks Soldiers and civilians to be a miracle in the lives of others by completing a pledge card by Dec. 1.

“Make it personal and choose a charity you care about,” said Lt. Col. Timothy Wulff, U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden commander, during the CFC kick-off Oct. 5 at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Dining Facility.

Wulff’s father had cancer, so he said he selects charities that are researching a cure and supporting families, hoping that in the future no one will have to go through what his father went through.

This year will be successful because those working for the military are selfless individuals who have already answered the call to serve, he said.

“I appreciate the support you’ve given to this campaign. You should be proud of yourself,” Wulff said. He thanked the United Service Organization, which donated electric toothbrushes and a Rhein River cruise as door prizes; the American Red Cross, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Army and Air Force Exchange Services, which donated a cake, and the 1st Armored Division Jazz Combo which entertained the audience.

Last year, Soldiers and civilians in Europe donated almost \$7 million to



Photo by Kelly Deichert

**The 1st Armored Division Jazz Combo Band performs during the CFC Kick-off at the Wiesbaden Army Airfield Dining Facility Oct. 5.**

CFC charities, including Feed the Children.

“We offer feeding programs and distribute food through a network of more than 60,000 food pantries and shelters throughout the world,” said Wendy Henderson, a Feed the Chil-

dren manager who attended the kick-off. The charity provides education outreach, school supplies and disaster relief to more than 110 countries.

To make a difference contact your unit CFC representative or visit [www.cfcoverseas.org](http://www.cfcoverseas.org).

# Understanding a Muslim holiday

**By Chaplain (Lt. Col) Terry Meek**  
*Special to the Herald Union*

At the end of Ramadan, Muslims throughout the world observe a joyous three-day celebration called Eid al-Fitr (the festival of returning to a natural state of control over one's base desires). Eid al-Fitr falls on the first day of Shawwal, (the 10th month on the Islamic Lunar calendar which follows Ramadan). It is a time to give in charity to those in need, and celebrate with family and friends the completion of a month of blessings and joy.

Before the day of Eid, during the last few days of Ramadan, each Muslim family gives a donation to the poor. This donation of food, such as rice, barley and dates, is to

ensure that the needy can have a holiday meal and participate in the celebration. This donation is known as sadaqah al-fitr (charity of fast-breaking).

On the day of Eid, Muslims gather early in the morning outdoors or in mosques to perform the Eid prayer. This consists of a sermon followed by a short congregational prayer. Muslims then usually scatter to visit family and friends, give gifts (especially to children) and make phone calls to distant relatives to give well-wishes for the holiday.

These activities traditionally continue for three days. In most Muslim countries, the entire three-day period is an official government and school holiday. Eid is celebrated with

enthusiasm and Muslims can be seen adorned in new clothes as they visit the mosques to attend salat al-eid (a special sermon and prayer that officially ends the fast within the community). The celebrations include eating special meals, exchanging cards and gifts and enjoying other festivities.

During the month of Ramadan, Muslims abstain from food and beverages, marital relations and all other forms of vices from dawn until dusk and participate in activities such as charitable giving and peace making. It is a time of intense spiritual renewal for those who observe it.

It is believed that the Quran was revealed during the month of Ramadan. Eid al-Fitr is a

day of joy and thanksgiving. On this day, Muslims show their joy for health, strength and opportunities of life, which Allah has given them to fulfill their obligations of fasting and

other good deeds during the month of Ramadan. It is considered unholy to fast on this day. It is also a day of forgetting old grudges and ill feelings towards others.

**[www.wiesbaden.army.mil](http://www.wiesbaden.army.mil)**

**ARGO  
Fischrestaurant**

**Thai Kitchen  
(unconfirmed)**

**Sushiedo**



# Local facility specializes in MOUT training

**Story and photos by  
Ignacio "Iggy"  
Rubalcava**

**U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder  
Public Affairs Office**

Nestled in a clearing surrounded by thick pines and oak trees in the northwest corner of the Rheinland Pfalz is a small village whose residents are out of control. One could say it is the most dangerous village in the Rheinland Pfalz, day or night. Doors have been blown off their hinges. Civilians wearing suicide belts rush military checkpoints. Shady characters who take refuge in the darkest corners and alleyways of the village are flushed out, put in zip cuffs and blindfolded by military patrols.

But the worse it gets, the more Soldiers like it, because that's what Mountain Village was built for, to train for military urban operations. Like all things military, the village has an official name and an acronym – Military Operations on Urbanized Terrain Village, a generous helping of words that has been shortened to MOUT Village.

One of the units that recently took advantage of the facilities at MOUT Village was the 529th Military Police Company from Heidelberg.

"We're conducting different field training exercises. We call them situational training exercises. Included in that is our mount and close-quarter battle. We're also doing clearing techniques and extraction techniques," said Master Sgt. Don Lawson, operations officer, 529th MP Company.

"We are training with the 10th Special Forces Group, Airborne, out of Stuttgart. They've been kind enough to help train our guys in room-clearing techniques and it's working out real well," said Lawson. "Part of their job is to train other people, so it worked out perfectly," he said.

The MPs also conducted training in individual searches. Role players approached the checkpoint one by one and tested the reaction of the MPs. Some role players cooperated while others pretended they had

no clue what the Soldiers were telling them.

Improvised explosive device and convoy training, as well as dealing with insurgents, civilians and suicide bombers, was also a part of the training scenario.

"We enjoy the facilities here. We travel all the way from Heidelberg to come up here because the host nation staff here bends over backwards for us. We appreciate it.

"They have a really nice MOUT city and ranges, and we can stay at Lager Aulenbach so it really facilitates our training. We always try to come here to Baumholder because of the facilities," said Lawson.



An MP practices his apprehension techniques on a role player.



Soldiers from the 529th Military Police Company from Heidelberg provide cover while two other Soldiers load a cache of weapons into a High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle.



Soldiers use a wall for cover as they quickly make their way through MOUT Village to apprehend suspected insurgents and confiscate a cache of weapons. MOUT Village, in Baumholder, is ideal for training in urban warfare tactics.



## Don't let bad weather sneak up on on you

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava  
U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder  
Public Affairs Office

If you listen to German tire company salesmen, they are predicting a very cold and snowy winter season. But in spite of the many briefings and the gradually cooling temperatures, the first white flakes and icy roads catch many by surprise.

When inclement weather hits, the radio is the best source of up-to-date weather information. Road conditions and any delays or cancellations in work, schools or other community services as determined by the local commander are promptly reported on American Forces Network radio.

Like clockwork, once the first snow flakes hit the ground, Baumholder residents reach for their phones and inundate the U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder command group and military police with an avalanche of questions such as "Are the schools closed?" "Is the post closed?" "What facilities are closed and which are open?" "Is it safe to drive to the PX or commissary?"

Community residents should not call the military police as the influx of calls will tie up the phone lines and prevent their timely response to a possible emergency.

Confusion breaks out annually when residents try to interpret the color-codes for road conditions that are reported by AFN and who they apply to.

During adverse weather conditions, people often mistakenly believe a road condition advisory such as "amber" or "red" applies to all motorists. This is not the case. Here are a few facts that

may help.

▲ The most common weather-related report heard over AFN radio and television and other alert channels pertains to road conditions. A road condition report applies only to military vehicles and restricts operators to various degrees of travel. It does not apply to civilian vehicles. Motorists traveling to work in their own cars should use road condition announcements to help them take appropriate safety measures when traveling to and from work.

▲ Some AFN affiliates will report actual road conditions, such as icy, slippery or snow-covered, instead of the color codes for military vehicles. These notices may be used by motorists to determine appropriate travel plans.

To learn the road conditions during duty hours call your unit or the USAG Baumholder operations officer at mil 485-1530. After duty hours, call the USAG Baumholder staff duty personnel at mil 485-6150 or civ (06783) 6-6150.

### Radio frequencies

AFN Kaiserslautern can be heard by tuning your radio to 100.2 FM, or 1107 AM.

To receive information from AFN Hessen, tune your radio to 98.7 FM, Z106.6 FM or 873 AM.

▲ Another announcement often heard during adverse weather is a delay in reporting to work. If, for example, AFN reports that all Baumholder personnel are authorized a two-hour delay in reporting to work, this means that motorists have two additional hours to report to work. It doesn't mean people should roll over and go back to sleep.



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

A car approaches the snow-covered traffic circle on Smith Barracks during the last snow season.

The intent of a delay is to allow people who don't live close to their work a reasonable amount of time to report to work in a safe manner. Those who live on post or do not commute are expected to report to work on time.

▲ A commander may close an installation as a result of dangerous weather conditions. This means that all facilities are closed — including schools, commissaries, exchanges and shoppettes. It does not mean everyone has a day off to go shopping or run errands. For one, all these places will be closed. People should not be out on the road during extreme inclement weather.

### Post closure, leave policy

During a post closure or a delay, military and civilian mission-essential personnel should coordinate their reporting time with their chain of command.

Another aspect of closures and delays is the accountability for missed work hours. Military members do not need to record the downtime. If a military member was on leave during a closure, that day will be counted as leave.

Civilian employees are placed on administrative leave during a post closure. Those on leave during a closure will remain on leave, just as military members. This applies to American and local national civilian employees.

A post closure does not affect the leave status that a member has during that time. Civilian employees who don't live near their place of work must determine if they can make it to work or not.

If civilians elect to stay home, they must report that time as regular leave (except during a post closure). The bottom line is, use common sense.

## Winter tires: More than safety issue, it's the law

By Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava  
U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder  
Public Affairs Office

Motorists who want to make it through this winter without slamming their new SUV or shiny Mustang into another vehicle are well advised to ensure they have the appropriate tires for winter driving installed on their vehicle.

Winter tires are not only a safety issue in Germany, but rather the law. If you are involved in a vehicle accident during the winter season and you are driving on summer tires, you will automatically be at fault, regardless of the circumstances of the accident.

A new German traffic law will level a €20 fine if you are caught by the police driving with summer tires during the winter season. If you block,

hinder or obstruct other vehicles on the road during winter while driving with inappropriate tires, a €40 fine will be coming your way.

The recommended time to install winter tires is during the last two weeks of October. If used tires are installed, German law requires a minimum of 4-millimeters of tread all around the tire. Safety officials recommend that tires be rebalanced each time they are installed to ensure proper vehicle handling and even tire wear.

The 4-millimeter rule applies only in Germany. Other European countries have even more stringent rules. If you plan on driving to the ski slopes in

Austria this winter, your tires will need more than 4 millimeters of tread.

Regardless of the safety features a vehicle may have, the tires are the key to safely handling your vehicle in snow and ice. That's where the "rubber meets the road," so to speak.

Mud and snow tires, usually marked as "M + S" tires, also known as all-season tires, may not be suitable in heavy German snow. All-season tires tend to stiffen and lose gripping power around zero Celsius.

The loss of traction on icy or snow-covered roads may become a critical safety issue as the temperature drops.

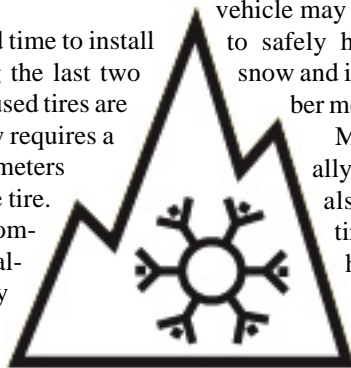
Regardless of what sort of winter tires are installed, motorists should look

for the peaked mountain with snowflake symbol on the side of the tire. This symbol tells motorists that these tires have been designed for use in severe snow conditions.

Wide, high-performance tires, other than those specifically designed as snow tires, are not suitable for snow-covered roads.

As a final safety note, think "4 for the road." Safety officials recommend installing winter tires all around instead of just on the drive axle. The dynamics of front-wheel drive vehicles are such that winter tires are required on the front and back of the vehicle in order to avoid spinning out.

For more information about winter driving in Germany contact the U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder Safety Office at mil 485-1670.





# 1-94 FA puts deep steel on target

**By Spc. Andrew Orillion**  
*1st Armored Division Public Affairs*

First there is a blinding flash of light followed by the ear-splitting screech of a rocket flying overhead. Then, smoke fills the area and the acrid smell of fuel wafts through the air. It may seem unpleasant to some, but to the Multiple Launch Rocket System Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 94th Field Artillery, this is some of the best training they get.

The training, held at Smith Barracks in Baumholder Sept. 25-28, was part of the annual section certification in which the MLRS gunners and their crews are certified to be compliant in their combat mission, said Lt. Col. Thomas Matsel, battalion commander, 1-94 FA.

"We conduct this training twice a year due to the high turnover rate," Matsel said. "It is one of the many tools we have for determining our combat effectiveness."

The training consisted of three different firing missions: when ready, at my command and time on target.

The "when ready" mission requires an MLRS to fire as fast as it can once it receives its target. The "at my command" mission requires the launchers to wait until the command is given to fire.

"The purpose of the 'at my command' mission is for all launchers to learn to fire simultaneously and learn



Photo by Spc. Andrew Orillion

**A rocket from an MLRS makes its way to the target during a training exercise at Baumholder.**

to wait for the proper command," Matsel said.

The final mission was the "time on target" mission, which required all three rounds hit the target at the same time.

The live fire was just one part of the training that recertified the MLRS crews for combat.

"Live fire is the last part of what we call Table VII certification," said Capt. Joseph Liebner, Bravo Battery commander, 1-94 FA. "There are six other parts to the training that must be passed before the Soldiers can do the live fire portion."

Before the live fire 1-94 FA Soldiers have to complete a variety of other tasks including a written test, crew drills, loading drills, calibration tests and a dry fire. Once the MLRS crew proves itself with these drills, they are ready for the live fire, Liebner said.

"When you lock and load with live rockets you really have to know your stuff," Matsel said. "You have to be competent in both the technical and tactical side of MLRS operations."

The MLRS crews had little difficulty with the training, exceeding expectations with all 18 sections qualify-

ing, Matsel said.

This accuracy was a combination of good training and good equipment.

"The MLRS is very user-friendly. If you can't do it, it is because you're not supposed to," said Sgt. Joshua C. Moore, MLRS section chief, Bravo Battery, 1-94 FA.

For the MLRS crews, firing the system is not the hardest part. The waiting can prove the most nerve racking.

"It takes less than a minute for the forward observers to call back and let you know if you hit the target," Moore said. "But during this time you're praying that you hit the target."

Firing the MLRS is only one part of the equation. The MLRS driver also plays a crucial role in the success of the mission.

"This was my first time driving an MLRS. It's a tracked vehicle so it is very different to drive than a HUMVEE," said Pfc. William Bishop, MLRS driver, Bravo Battery, 1-94 FA. "It was a lot of fun to drive because it handles really well off-road."

Certifying the individual sections is crucial to the success of the entire 1-94 FA, Matsel said.

"Once all the sections are certified, everything is set in motion and we can begin training at a larger level," Matsel said. "With all the sections certified we can test the entire battery in January."



Photo by Ignacio "Iggy" Rubalcava

## First 'mum'

Command Sgt. Maj. Ann McDaniels, U.S. Army Garrison Baumholder command sergeant major, receives a mum from a Baumholder American High School cheerleader during the homecoming pep rally at the school gymnasium. This is the first time Baumholder students have presented chrysanthemums to parents during the festivities. Mums are traditionally presented to parents during homecoming in the States.

# Canine hero leaves lasting memories

Derych, a patrol and explosives detection military working dog assigned to the 230th Military Police Company K9 Kennels, passed away Sept. 30 at the Kaiserslautern veterinary clinic.

He had developed cancer throughout his heart and lungs and had to be euthanized.

Derych had 10 years of service and seven deployments under his collar: India, Pakistan, Bosnia, Afghanistan, Kuwait and twice to Iraq. His explosives detection abilities saved countless American and allied lives.

He was born in January, 1996 at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, where he also underwent his basic training. The young German Shepherd was then assigned to Baumholder.

"Derych set the standard to judge other military working dogs by. He was disciplined and loyal without fail and



had an endless drive to work. His only weaknesses were for long rides in the back of patrol vehicles and Burger King Double Whoppers," said Spc. Spencer Maestas, a military policeman assigned to the K9 kennels.

"Those who had the pleasure to know and work with Derych will miss him and remember him always," said Maestas.



## Group exercise classes, Soldier PT

Are you looking for something special to offer your Family Readiness Group for training sessions? Fitness Promotions now offers a group fitness class. The group rate is \$50 or tickets may be purchased for \$4 each. The minimum number of participants is 15 and the maximum is 30. Call Honey Bueno at civ (06783) 6-7093 or mil 485-7093 to schedule a class.

## Rolling Hills Athletic Club, pool

The Rolling Hills Athletic Club is located in upper Wetzel and includes an indoor pool and fitness center. The fitness center is open from noon to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday and noon to 5 p.m. on Saturday, Sunday and holidays. The pool has new hours: Wednesday and Thursday from 3-4:30 p.m. and 6:30-8 p.m.; Friday from 3-8 p.m.; Saturday, Sunday and holidays from noon to 5 p.m. Daily, monthly and quarterly memberships are available for individuals and families. Call the RHAC for prices at civ (06783) 6-6156.

Family swim night is offered every Friday from 5-8 p.m. for \$1 per person.

The RHAC pool needs lifeguards. Contact Warren Latham at the RHAC at civ (06783) 6-6156 or 6-6575.

## Wellness massage

Relax with a certified masseuse at the Rolling Hills Athletic Club. Sports, wellness and fitness massages are available. Choose from Swedish, Deep Tissue, Hot Stone Therapy, Combination, Reflexology,

# Happenings



Photo by Kelsy Husted

## Mail call

**Spc. Nick Collins, 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, and Pvt. Billy Jarvis, 4th Battalion, 27th Field Artillery Regiment, assist with mail distribution. Military Postal Service mail consisting of footlockers, duffel bags and boxes is received daily in large quantities from Baumholder Soldiers anticipating redeployment from Iraq in the coming weeks. Due to space limitations and the amount of mail being received, the Community Mail Room is distributing all "downrange" mail from Building 8320, located directly below Ironworks on Smith Barracks.**

Specific and Native Classic massages. A 30-minute massage costs \$25. A 60-minute session is \$40. To schedule your appointment call mil 485-6156 or civ (06783) 6-6156.

## Fitness classes

The following classes are

offered at the Rolling Hills Athletic Club:

**Monday, Friday,** spinning, 4:15-5:15 p.m. No class Oct. 27 or 30.

**Monday,** spinning, 5:30 p.m. No class Oct. 30.

**Monday,** belly dancing basic, 6:30 p.m. Only in October.

**Tuesday,** yoga, 9 a.m.

**Tuesday, Thursday,** yoga, 11:45 a.m.

**Tuesday, Friday,** belly dancing basic, 5:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, Friday,** belly dancing choreography, 6:30 p.m.

**Wednesday,** yoga, 5:30

p.m.

## Mountaineer Gym

The Mountaineer Fitness Center is open Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.; holidays, Saturday, Sunday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call civ (06783) 6-7418 or mil 485-7418.

## Mountaineer classes

**Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, step,** 9-10 a.m.

**Monday, Wednesday, and Friday,** weight training, 10-10:30 a.m. through Nov. 3.

## Recreation trips

**Oct. 28,** Halloween at Movie World.

**Oct. 29,** Black Forest sightseeing.

**Nov. 4,** Poland Pottery Shopping trip.

**Nov. 10-13,** Austrian Ski Weekend (three overnights).

**Nov. 11,** Wine Tasting on the Mosel.

**Nov. 12,** Turkey Shoot, Trap and Skeet range.

For detailed pricing information call Baumholder Outdoor Recreation at mil 485-7182, civ (06783) 6-7182.

## Army Community Service classes

**Oct. 30,** Smooth Moves for PCS, 2-3 p.m.

**Oct. 31,** Resumix and Employment Orientation, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**Nov. 1,** Bank Account Management, 9-11 a.m.

**Nov. 1,** Reintegration and Children with Special Needs.

**Nov. 8,** Successful Money Management, 9-11 a.m.

**Nov. 9,** Resumix and Employment Orientation, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For information call mil 485-8188, civ (06783) 6-8188.

# News briefs

## Wounded need help

Landstuhl Regional Medical Center is accepting donations of new sweat suits, black duffel bags, athletic shoes, toiletries, winter coats, phone cards, DVDs, portable DVD players, etc. for wounded Soldiers.

Send donations to: Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Attn: Chaplain's Office, CMR 402, APO AE

09180.

For more information call Baumholder's chapel office at mil 485-1570 or civ (06783) 6-1750.

## Customs hours

The Baumholder Customs Office in Building 8724 is open Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to noon and 12:30-4:30 p.m. On Friday it closes at 4:25 p.m. The office is closed on all federal and German holi-

days. For information call mil 485-7442 or civ (06783) 6-7442.

## Sesame Street DVD

Army Community Service has copies of the Sesame Street DVD entitled "Talk, Listen, Connect: Helping Families Cope with Military Deployment." These DVDs are free and available while quantities last. Family readiness groups or individuals may call Sarah

Dayton at mil 485-8188 or civ (06783) 6-8188 to receive a copy of this DVD.

## Job opening

Choctaw Management Services Enterprises has home visitor openings for the Baumholder Army New Parent Support Program. Candidates must be either a licensed clinical Master of Social Work or a licensed Bachelor of Science in Nursing with two years

experience.

Send resumes to: [mariela.fernandez@image.army.mil](mailto:mariela.fernandez@image.army.mil) or fax to civ (06202) 80-6586. For more information call civ (06202) 80-6593 or mil 379-6593.

**Joe Satellite**